FoxConn Making An Amazon Phone For 2013

Adding a little more weight to rumours have been around [1] for almost a year now: a report from Taiwan suggests Amazon really is prepping a smartphone for launch in mid-2013.

According to Taiwan Economic News [2], the e-commerce giant has contracted Taiwanese manufacturer FoxConn Technology to assemble 5 million smartphones, in preparation for launch between the second and third quarters of 2013. The phones will be priced between $100 and $200, the report adds, citing “industry sources.”

Some events that are likely to occur around that same time frame are Google I/O [3] for developers in May 2013, and a potential Apple event in June, notes TheDroidGuy.com [4].

FoxConn’s factories already manufacture Apple [5]‘s iPhone and iPad, as well as Amazon’s Kindle. The manufacturing company primarily makes mobile handsets, and separate reports [6] have indicated Microsoft [7] also wants the company to make its rumoured Surface smartphone, to also launch next year.

The reports adds that FoxConn would probably collaborate with Taiwanese touch panel makers Young Fast Optoelectronics and J Touch to make the phone, which (like the Kindle Fire) would probably run on Google [8]‘s Android operating system.

Shares of Amazon were up nearly 2% or $4.80 in late trading New York on Monday.

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